

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • www.ourladyofmercychurch.org



August 18, 2019 – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday: 8:30 a.m.

Holy Day of Obligation: 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

PARISH STAFF

Msgr. Gerald T. Ritchie, *Pastor*

Donna Clark, *Pastoral Minister*

Irene Lucas, *Director of Lifelong Faith Formation*

Brandon Vogt, *Director of Liturgy & Music*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant*

Geri Hadlock, *Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org



MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Eucharistic, Catholic Christian Community of Communities formed by the Word of God and the teachings of the Church. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to live the values of Jesus Christ in a prayerful, welcoming and nurturing environment.

THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar

Mon. 08/19	7:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
Tue. 08/20	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	5:30 p.m.	AA
	7:00 p.m.	Core Team Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Council
Wed. 08/21	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 08/22		
Fri. 08/23		
Sat. 08/24	10:00 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 08/25	9:45 a.m.	Catechist Organizational Meeting
	9:45 a.m.	MNO/KoC Baseball Trip

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of August 11, 2019

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	106	\$4,529.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	116	\$2,930.00
Loose Change:		\$ 295.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$7,754.00

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/19	Jgs 2:11-19	/ Mt 19:16-22
Tue. 08/20	Jgs 6:11-24a	/ Mt 19:23-30
Wed. 08/21	Jgs 9:6-15	/ Mt 20:1-16
Thur. 08/22	Jgs 11:29-39a	/ Mt 22:1-14
Fri. 08/23	Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/	Mt 22:34-40
Sat. 08/24	Rv 21:9b-14	/ Jn 1:45-51
Sun. 08/25	Is 66:18-21	/ Heb 12:5-7, 11-13
		/ Lk 13:22-30

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 08/19	8:30 a.m.	Tim Eisert <i>(Angels in Training)</i>
Tue. 08/20	8:30 a.m.	Emma Royer <i>(Kyle & Laura Chase)</i>
Wed. 08/21	8:30 a.m.	Evelyn Seyboldt <i>(Scott Prichard)</i>
Thur. 08/22	8:30 a.m.	
Fri. 08/23	8:30 a.m.	Sally Talerico <i>(Sandy Jordan)</i>
Sat. 08/24	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	Larry Rogers <i>(Carol Rogers)</i>
Sun. 08/25	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Carol Zuhusky <i>(The Spiegel Family)</i>



We Remember...

John Green, who passed away this week. Please hold him and his family in prayer during this difficult time.

PRAYER LINE

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Call Donna Smicker at 899-9108

4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Call Gerri Extein at 899-6875

The **Hospital Visitor** for the week is Marilyn Garwig.

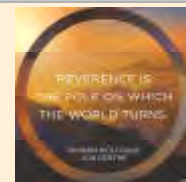


SUNSET BEACH MASS

The annual Sunset Beach Mass at Glinodo Center is **TODAY, Aug. 18 at 7:00 PM**. Cookie fellowship will follow. Bring your own lawn chair, a plate of cookies to share (if you wish), and invite a friend. This is a beautiful way to celebrate the blessings of summer and to share the joy of our faith with others. This Mass fulfills your Sunday obligation.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Luke 12:49-53



The reward of the prophet who serves God is often hardship and trials. Jeremiah stood up to the people in power, but it was a thankless task. He was left to die in the miry well for speaking God's truth. Like Jeremiah, we know that life can be hard, yet we wait in hope for God to save us. With him we pray, "Though I am afflicted and poor, the Lord is my help and my deliverer."

Jesus warns us that the peaceable kingdom he comes to establish will meet with opposition. Even households will be divided in their loyalty to him. Jesus comes to set the world on fire, not with warfare and destruction but with the light of faith. In our dying and rising in baptism, the fire ignited on Calvary is set ablaze.

We are members of a great household of faith, surrounded by a cloud of witnesses who show us how to endure the crosses of life and bear them with joy. Abraham, Jeremiah, Paul, and Mary help us to persevere in the contests of life. We will reach our goal if we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who inspires and perfects our faith. Despite opposition, we will not give up but will keep running the race until we cross the finish line.

For Reflection: When have I felt afflicted like Jeremiah for speaking the truth? Who are the prophets, martyrs, and saints that inspire me not to give up?

Grief Support Group

August 19 at 7:00pm, the third Monday of the month, we gather to share our journey through grief. Many people feel they are alone in this experience; that no one else could understand the crazy thoughts and feelings. Yet there are others who understand, anyone who has been in the situation of losing a loved one. Come, allow yourself to be comforted. Questions contact Donna Clark.



OLM Book Group



Summer is here! It is time for long days in the sun, perfect for reading. The OLM Book Group invites you to share your reading adventures with a great group of women over a glass of wine and terrific talk. Join us August

21 at the home of Donna Huff, 4517 N. Woods Dr., to discuss The Japanese Lover by Isabel Allende. Our September title will be Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens.

Women's Lunch

Monday Aug 26 at 1pm join a group of fun loving ladies who live alone for lunch at the Harborview Grill, 3730 Harbor Ridge Trail. On nice days, we sit on the deck and look at the lake. Good fellowship follows no matter the weather.



Young Adult Holy Hour

Friday August 30, 7pm, Sanctuary Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition, Sacrament of Confession, silence and song. Optional dinner afterwards.



Cards for homebound ministry

The homebound ministry sends cards seasonally to parishioners who cannot get out to church. They are looking for cards for the Thanksgiving season, St. Patrick's Day, Valentines Day and appropriate Mother's or Father's Day. You can help by bringing in cards or helping to design the cards for printing. Contact Donna Clark.



Labor Day Picnic Supplies

Shopping at GFS for Labor Day Weekend? Don't forget to mention Our Lady of Mercy at Checkout. We get points for each dollar spent and the Funeral Meal Ministry uses those points to buy food for the Parish.



Religious Education

Religious education classes begin on Tuesday, Sept. 3.

Religious Education Registration

If you were not able to register your child on registration weekend, please stop by the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation to sign the paper work. All new and returning children, including high school seniors preparing to celebrate Confirmation in November, need to be registered.

Religious Education Volunteers Needed

We need a few more people to assist with the religious education ministry this year:

- A Junior High catechist – Sunday noon to 1:15
- An Office Aid – Sunday 9:15-10:45
- Substitute Catechists - All Levels

If you are able to volunteer or would like more information, contact Irene Lucas at 899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org

Catechist Organizational Meeting

There will be a meeting for all volunteer catechists on Sunday, August 25 between the 8:30 and 11:00 Masses. Meet in the Conference Room at 9:45 for an hour of prayer, planning and fellowship.

Religious Education Parent Meetings:

Gr. 9 Parent/Candidate Meeting - Sept. 4 at 6:00
Gr. 11 Parent/Candidate Meeting - Sept. 5 at 6:00
Gr. 7& 8 Parent Meeting - Sept. 8 at 12:15
Gr K-2 Family Event - Sept. 8 at 9:30

Sister Parish Committee Selling Daffin's Candy Bars

The Sister Parish Committee is selling Daffin's candy bars to help with the cost of the delegation this October. Candy bars are \$1. They are available in the Gathering Space. Leave your money in the bucket.



Sister Parish School Supply Collection

The Sister Parish Committee is also collecting school supplies to bring to Peto: pencils, pens, erasers, pencil sharpeners, rulers. We can not take notebooks, paper, or crayons. Our supply list is limited to small, light-weight items that we can carry down and that won't melt in the heat. School supply donations can be placed in the basket under the candy bar table.



Our Communities Are Growing Again!



We are forming at least one new Small Christian Community this fall! Are you interested in joining a community? Have you been in a community but are looking for a change? Are you

just curious about our parish communities and would like to learn more? Join us at noon on Sunday September 8 in the picnic pavilion. Enjoy a grilled hot dog, find answers to your questions, and help us kick-start a few new communities this fall. Bring a dish to share, or just come and join us. See you there! Interested but can't make it? Call Katie in the office 899-5342 or Dave 602-4622

Crop Walk supports Ella Cochran Food Pantry.

Each year the food pantry receives \$300-600 dollars from the Erie County Crop Walk. You can make a donation whether or not you choose to walk. To Give online to the Crop Walk for Ella Cochran Food Pantry go to: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/eriepa> and choose the "Walker" Ella Cochran. The Crop Walk for Erie county distributes the money to over 20 local agencies and part of the proceeds go to help feeding the hungry around the world.



Festival Update:

Thank you to everyone for helping to make our Festival the: "Best Festival Ever!" Our Chinese Auction and Bake Sale were phenomenal. We are seeking feedback from everyone. Please contact Katie in the Parish Office and provide suggestions to keep making our Festival better. Please also share thoughts on new big raffle prizes for next year!



Children's Worship Bulletins

Keep the children engaged with their stories of faith over the summer. Grab the 4-page hand-out of activities based on the Sunday readings each week. They can be found on the bulletin tables near the doors of the church. Children's Liturgy of the Word will continue through the summer at the 11:00 Mass.



Anniversary Celebration

The 2019 Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies for couples celebrating 25, 50, 60, or more years of marriage will be held on **Sunday, August 25, at 2:00 p.m.** at Sacred Heart in Erie. To register, please go online to <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html> or contact your parish office or the Marriage and Family Life Office (814) 824-1265 or (800) 374-3723 ext. 265.



Interested in Glass Recycling?

Check out www.bayfrontglass.com

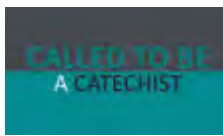


A Letter from the Baby Box Program,

I found a FedEx package on my porch the other day and was thrilled when I opened it and found so many lovely things for our Baby Box Program in Haiti. We can include them in the layette we put in each box for each newborn that we give them to. We really appreciate the help and support of Our Lady of Mercy. We know their help will save the lives of some babies in Haiti. We are exploring the possibility of starting the program in the Port-au-Prince area. We are now doing it at 3 clinics in the Cap Haitien area. Keep us in your prayers as we try to expand the program. Thanks so much for your help. –Dorothy Frederickson, Coordinator of Baby Box Program



Ministry in the Parish



The best way to know something is to teach it. Do you like talking about God? Do you want to help pass faith on to the children of the parish? Then perhaps the Ministry of Religious Education Teacher, a Catechist, is right for you. Hesitant? Then sign up to be a substitute teacher and test the waters. Get more information from the brochure in the ministry display rack.

Social Justice



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops states "The Catholic Church in the United States is an immigrant Church with a long history of embracing diverse newcomers and providing assistance and pastoral care to immigrants, migrants, refugees, and people on the move... In Christ, the human race is one before God, equal in dignity and rights."

The USCCB references scripture before providing three principles to guide the policy making on immigration. The scriptures include:

- Lv. 19:33-34. You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you; have the same love for him as for yourself; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt.
- Mt 25:35. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me.
- Gal 3:28. There is neither Jew nor Greek . . . for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Three Principles espoused by the USCCB:

- People have the right to migrate to sustain their lives and the lives of their families.
- A country has the right to regulate its borders and to control immigration.
- A country must regulate its borders with justice and mercy.

For more information visit <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/immigration/>

The Ignatian Examen - A Form of Prayer

The Daily Examen of Consciousness is not to be confused with the traditional Examination of Conscience. This is not a disciplined designed to heighten awareness of moral failings. Rather, it is a spiritual exercise, which encourages greater sensitivity to God's action in the ordinary moments of life. This sensitivity helps us to recognize how God is calling us to grow in holiness, how we can respond with greater fidelity to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

The daily *Examen* is prayer. It is very important that one is conscious of being at prayer. This is prayer, an opening up to grace.

Set aside approximately 15 minutes. Most people pray it only once a day, in the evening but one can also use this prayer at midday.

Find a relatively quiet place where distractions and interruptions are minimal. Assume a comfortable, but attentive, posture.

Step #1 Pray to the Holy Spirit

Begin this time of prayer by quieting your heart and mind so that you can be aware of God's presence with you. Ask the Holy Spirit for the gift of holy light as you review your day.

Step #2 Be Grateful For the Signs of God's Love

Review your day with particular attention for the numerous signs of God's love it held for you. Because you are a physical and relational creature, God will communicate that love in physical and relational ways. E.g. in the beauty of a sunrise, the song of birds, the silence of new snow, in the praise of a colleague, the giggle of a grandchild, the request of a stranger, in the warmth of the furnace, the flavor of a bowl of

soup, the refreshment of sleep, in all the little things of the day .

Be Grateful for the Ways you Were a Sign of God's Love

Be aware of the ways that you were a blessing for others: the boo-boos you kissed, the time spent listening to another, the meal you served, the ride you offered, the silence support you gave. Praise God for the times you could incarnate Divine love. Never take for granted the honor of being able to show love.

Step #3 Review Your Day for Your Response to God

This step is the longest and most grace-filled segment of the *Examen*. Like viewing a movie, watch the events of your day. Be attentive to the ways that you responded to God's love in your life throughout this day. Although your words and actions are important, notice your emotional responses, your motivations, your patterns of behaviors as well. Positive responses to God's love are just as significant as negative ones.

Ignatius believed that emotions were critical means for God's self-communication and could tell a person a great deal about their spiritual life. Where were you feeling angry or anxious, excited or enthusiastic, calm or cautious, frustrated or fearful, peaceful or proud, etc.? What was the source of those emotional reactions? Did your anger come from a wounded pride or protective care for a loved one; was it exacerbated because of physical pain or an unresolved and unrelated prior hurt?

Notice your motivations. Do you assist a colleague because you want her to succeed or because you want to gain commendation from your supervisor? Notice

instinctive or automatic reactions. Do you normally assume malevolent or charitable reasons for the words and deeds of another? Notice patterns. Do the coffee breaks at the office regularly deteriorate into complaint or gossip sessions? Notice growth. Were you able to have a conversation with the cause of a past hurt without the bile rising in your throat? Were you able to be more patient with an annoying in-law?

Step #4 Talk With Jesus

Imagine Jesus, the lover of your soul, your best friend, your guide and confident, sitting with you. Talk with Him about your reactions, motivations and actions of the day. Ask Him to guide you through all that you have noticed in the day, to guide you to a life of faithfully following the Gospel. **Spend time listening to what Jesus has to say.**

Step #5 Anticipate the Grace of Tomorrow

Because the *Examen* is a prayer that invites you to a more faithful walk with Jesus, anticipate the grace you will need for a holier life tomorrow. Allow the strongest feelings or insights of this day to lead you to ask for the grace you will most need. If your reflection revealed unresolved hurts, pray for forgiveness. If your reflection showed you the face of someone you ignored, pray for the grace to see and reverence that one. If it confronted you with an area of stress or frustration, pray for the courage to make the necessary changes.

Also, be aware of your obligations for the coming day. What emotions do you experience as you note all that lies ahead of you? Pray for the specific grace that you will need for each item on your calendar.

LYNCH
Home Medical Supply
TIMOTHY P. LYNCH
Parishioner, Owner, Certified Orthotic Fitter
Lift Chairs & Scooters • Wound Care • Walkers
Wheelchairs • Commodes & Much More
4020 Main St. • Lawrence Park
899-3636
www.lynmchmedical.com

Stans
Where There's Always Something GROWING on!
Jim Skarzenski & Bob Rocky - Parishioners
East 5001 Buffalo Road Erie, PA 16510 899.5424
West 5341 West Lake Road Erie, PA 16505 835.6960

HEISE REBUILDING
Starters • Alternators • Electrical Rewiring • Mechanical Repairs
PA Inspections
899-8186
1291 Walbridge Rd. • Erie, PA 16511
heiserebuilding.com
~ Parishioner ~

MELISSA A. BOOZEL
WWW.MELISSABTAX.COM
- Mobile Services
- Signing Agent
- Evening & Weekend Appointments
6484 Buffalo Road Harborcreek
814-464-4111

WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES
• Full Time Position with Benefits
• Sales Experience Preferred
• Paid Training
• Overnight Travel Required
• Expense Reimbursement
CONTACT US AT
careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers

William D. Elkin Funeral Home
65 South Lake St. • North East
725-4511
Timothy P. Elkin, F.D.
William D. Elkin, F.D.
Pre-Arrangements Available

PRICHARD CHIROPRACTIC OFFICES
6095 Buffalo Road Harborcreek, PA
899-1966
DR. LOREN J. PRICHARD
DR. SCOTT V. PRICHARD

FIDDLE INN
HARBORCREEK, PA
"Home of the EVERYTHINGS"
6615 Buffalo Road
814-899-9005
www.diningverse.com/fiddleinn

HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY
With a home security system monitored by ADT professionals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As an added benefit, installing a Security System may qualify you for a Homeowners Insurance discount.
CALL NOW! 1-888-331-6501

COMMUNITY NURSING SERVICES
of North East
call us at 814.725.4300
to find out how we can serve you.
www.northeastnurses.com

catholicmatch
Pennsylvania
CatholicMatch.com/PA

Widget Financial
widgetfinancial.com

ADT AUTHORIZED DEALER

HARBORCREEK AUTO Gallery
6850 Buffalo Rd. 814-315-4051
Harborcreek, PA
www.harborcreekautogallery.com
• Sales • PA Inspections
• Notary • Detailing

DUSCKAS - TAYLOR FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.
5151 BUFFALO RD. ERIE, PA 16510
ROBERT D. TAYLOR, SUPERVISOR
814-315-0911
WWW.DUSCKAS-TAYLORFUNERALHOME.COM

OLLINGER PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
Residential • Commercial
Quality Installations & Service
899-2809

Foster's Rose of Sharon Floral & Gift Shop
Savings of Up To 25% On Any Silk Items
2703 Buffalo Rd • 814-899-5071

FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
- 800-477-4574 -

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE
Contact **Tim Weir** to place an ad today!
tweir@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6568

JDL COMPUTERS
"Your Computer Professional"
NEW SYSTEMS USED • REPAIRS
"WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS"
898-8300
Jerry & Dee Law - Parishioners
JDLCOMPUTERS.COM

ICHIBAN ALL YOU CAN EAT
ORDER TO MAKE BUFFET
SUSHI & ASIAN CUISINE
4041 Buffalo Rd, Erie • 814-616-6352

Nicholas L. Heise Carpentry
✓ Interior/Exterior: Rough & Finish
✓ Furniture Restoration
✓ Windows & Doors
✓ Remodeling
✓ Decks
✓ Tile
814-392-6517
www.nicholasheisecarpentry.com

BOWERS FUNERAL HOME
92 SOUTH LAKE STREET NORTH EAST, PA 16428
725-4505
www.bowersfuneralhome.com

Brevillier Village
5416 East Lake Road Erie, PA 16511
814-899-8600
www.brevillier.org

Melissa Boozel Business & Notary Services
1040 U.S. 1720
Accounting, Payroll Tax Preparation & Notary
www.melissabtax.com
6484 Buffalo Road Harborcreek, PA
814-897-8755

Valley Beer Company
Michael Hamman & Amber Belson
10655 West Main St • North East
814-725-4644